

# County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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To:

February 14, 2012

Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Chairman

Supervisor Gloria Molina

Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas

Supervisor Don Knabe

Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From:

William T Fujioka

Chief Executive Officer

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#### **SACRAMENTO UPDATE**

This memorandum contains a pursuit of County position on legislation related to health services grant awards; the status of public safety realignment clean-up efforts; and a report on legislation of County interest related to contracting with out-of-state facilities to house county jail inmates.

### Pursuit of County Position on Legislation

AB 272 (Monning), which as amended January 25, 2012, is an urgency measure which would allow the California Health Facilities Financing Authority to award grants not exceeding \$1.5 million, in the aggregate, for projects designed to provide new or cost-effective methods for delivering health, mental health or dental care services to vulnerable populations or communities.

Existing law authorizes California Health Facilities Financing Authority (CHFFA) to make loans from CHFFA funds to public or nonprofit health institutions for financing or refinancing the acquisition, construction, or remodeling of health facilities. The CHFFA consists of nine members, including the State Treasurer who acts as the chair.

According to the Department of Health Services, AB 272 could potentially provide grant funding for health clinic renovation projects and/or equipment, including the expansion of the Emergency Department at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center and the new ambulatory

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care center at the High Desert Health System Multi-Service Ambulatory Centers. In anticipation of the implementation of Health Care Reform (HCR) in 2014, the County's new Ambulatory Care Network must increase service efficiencies for newly insured population to be in compliance with the new HCR laws. The availability of the grant funding provided in AB 272 could be used to renovate health clinics to provide office space for Healthy Way L.A. staff which would help increase access and facilitate the enrollment of patients in the County's health care plan.

The Department of Health Services and this office support AB 272. Therefore, consistent with existing Board policy to support legislation to allow the use of State capital improvement funds for County facility capital projects, including clinics and other public health facilities, and to establish grants for the operation of new and existing urban health care services programs and projects in medically underserved and urban areas, the Sacramento advocates will support AB 272.

AB 272 is sponsored by the California State Treasurer Bill Lockyer, and is supported by the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, the Association of California Healthcare Districts, and the California Hospital Association. The bill is opposed by the California Nurses Association.

AB 272 is currently on the Senate Floor.

## Status of Public Safety Realignment Clean-Up Efforts

The 2011 Public Safety Realignment (AB 109 of 2011 and other implementing legislation) shifted responsibility for the incarceration and supervision of certain offenders from the State to counties by: 1) changing sentencing guidelines; 2) creating Post-Release Community Supervision (PRCS) whereby certain offenders released from State prison are supervised by counties; and 3) transferring responsibility for PRCS and parole revocation proceedings to the courts.

Since implementation in October 2011, a number of issues related to the shift in responsibilities from the State to counties for these offenders have been identified by criminal justice stakeholders in Los Angeles County and statewide which require statutory changes or clarification. Some of these issues include allowing sheriffs to collect and distribute victim restitution fines, establishing standards for the PRCS revocation process, determining the appropriate supervising agency for acutely mentally ill offenders released from State prison, addressing long county jail sentences, and conforming language and addressing loopholes created by the sentencing changes in various code sections.

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A number of efforts are currently underway to effectuate the needed statutory changes and technical clean-up to the public safety programs shifted under the 2011 Public Safety Realignment. The Chief Probation Officers of California, the California State Association of Counties, the California State Sheriffs' Association, the California District Attorneys Association and others are actively engaged with the Administration and the Legislature to include clean-up language in budget trailer bills and/or new legislation. This office and the Sacramento advocates are actively participating with these associations.

This office will continue to analyze clean-up legislation as it is introduced and will work with appropriate stakeholders to identify ongoing implementation issues and develop solutions to address those issues with the Administration and Legislature.

#### **Legislation of County Interest**

**SB 983 (Strickland),** which as introduced on January 30, 2012, would amend existing law and allow boards of supervisors of any county to negotiate and enter into a contract with officials of any state for the confinement of county jail inmates in facilities located in that state. The bill would require boards of supervisors to determine the suitability of out-of-state correctional facilities and would remove any requirement to obtain the written consent of an inmate prior to transfer.

We will continue to keep you advised.

WTF:RA MR:VE:KA:sb

c: All Department Heads
Legislative Strategist
Local 721
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California Contract Cities Association
Independent Cities Association
League of California Cities
City Managers Associations
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